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October 30, 2002

GROUP 1600

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TO:

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Jennifer Kim Patent Examining Corps

Facsimile Center

Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: Ann S. Viksnins

OUR REF: 875.039US1

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* Please deliver to Examiner Jennifer Kim in Art Unit 1617. *

FORMAL RESPONSE - PLEASE ENTER

Document Transmitted: Amendment and Response Under 37 CFR 1.116, including Clean Version of Pending Claims (8 pgs)

Total pages of this transmission, including cover letter: 9 pgs

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In re. Patent Application of: Fred S. Lamb

Examiner: Jennifer Kim

Serial No.: 09/512,926

Group Art Unit: 1617

Filed: February 25, 2000

Docket No.: 875.039US1

Title: METHODS TO REDUCE THE SENSITIVITY OF

ENDOTHELIALLY-COMPROMISED VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Name: Ann S. Viksnins

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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1617

S/N 09/512,926

PATENT

2002/009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Fred S. Lamb

Examiner: Jennifer Kim

Scrial No.:

09/512,926

Group Art Unit: 1617

Filed:

February 25, 2000

Docket: 875.039US1

Title:

METHODS TO REDUCE THE SENSITIVITY OF

ENDOTHELIALLY-COMPROMISED VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed July 30, 2002. Please amend the application as indicated below.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3, 4, 13, 22 and 24.

Please substitute the claim set in entitled "Clean Version of Pending Claims" for the previously pending claim set. Claims 3, 4, 13, 22 and 24 are cancelled. Claims 1 and 23 are amended. The pending claims are claims 1, 6-11, 14-21 and 23. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

Please amend the following claims:

1. [Once Amended] A method to [reduce the sensitivity of] normalize the contractile response of an endothelially-compromised vascular smooth muscle cell to a vasoconstrictor agonist in a patient in need of such [reduction] normalization, comprising administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a CLC3 blocker, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Ms fares 18